



**ESTADO LIBRE ASOCIADO DE PUERTO RICO
GOBIERNO MUNICIPAL DE LAJAS**

Oficina del Alcalde

Leovigildo Cotte Torres

P. O. Box 910

Lajas, Puerto Rico 00667

Tel. (787) 899-1450 Fax (787) 899-1790

Email: alcaldelajas@hotmail.com

March 31, 2009

Mr. Sergio Bosques
Regional Storm Water Coordinator
Caribbean Environmental Protection Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region II
San Juan, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Bosques:

The Municipality of Lajas was listed as a regulated MS4 in Puerto Rico in the NPDS Storm Water Phase II Final Rule promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency on December 8, 1999 in the Federal Register 64 FR 68722. The EPA issued and published in the federal register on November 6, 2006 a NPDS general permit (NPDS Permit No. PRR040000) that established deadlines for the submission of a Notice of Intent to obtain coverage under the General Permit for Storm Water discharges from small MS4 in urbanized areas.

To this extent and pursuant to Section 308 (a) of the CWA, U.S.C. (a) we are submitting a written response to the Request for Information dated July 6, 2007.

Should you need additional information do not hesitate to contact Walter Báez Rodríguez, Director of Public Works Department at phone (787) 899-2973 or (787) 899-2979.

Cordially;


Leovigildo Cotte Torres
Mayor

LCT/mcc



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CERTIFICATION

I ***CERTIFY*** under penalty of Law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction and supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted.

Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine or imprisonment for knowing violations.

On this day of March 31, at Lajas, Puerto Rico.



Leovigildo Cotte Torres

Mayor

LCT/mcc

NPDES Permit Application
Regulated Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4's)

MUNICIPALITY OF LAJAS

Item

1. The Municipality of Lajas operates a municipal separate storm sewer system located in the urban center and different rural communities within the municipality,
2. The application is submitted on behalf of:

MUNICIPALITY OF LAJAS

Address	Victoria Street No. 5 P. O. Box 910 Lajas, Puerto Rico 00667
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Phone Numbers

Switchboard :	(787) 899-1450 , (787) 899-1550
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Mayor	(787) 899-1450 ext. 1002/1003
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Public Works :	(787) 899-2973/ 899-2979/ 899-2965
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Email

Municipality	<u>municipiodelajas@hotmail.com</u>
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Mayor	<u>alcaldelajas@hotmail.com</u>
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3. The Standard Industrial Classification Code for the Municipality is 9199.
4. The Storm Systems are operated by the Municipality of Lajas, a public entity of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The general information for the Municipality is disclosed in item 2.

5. Related Environmental Permits:

Agency	Permit Number	Description	Municipal Facility
A.A.A.	ADCG97125	Waste Water Transportation	Public Works
J.C.A.	SR410177	Non-Toxic Solid Waste Disposal	Public Works
D.R.N.A.	0-R5-PA01-MA-00017-2210-2008	Water Body Cleaning	Emergency management Office
J.C.A	IDF310035	Landfill Operation	Municipal Landfill
J.C.A	ET410031	Recycling Facility Operation	Municipal Recycling Facility

Permits or Construction Approvals:

- Resource Recovery and Conservation Act (RCRA) None
- Underground Injection Control (UIC) under the Safe Drinking Water Act None
- NPDES Program under Clean Water ACT (CWA) None
- Nonattainment Program under the Clean Air Act (CAA) None
- National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants Preconstruction Approval under the Clean Air Act None
- Ocean Dumping Permits under the Marine Protection Research And Sanctuaries Act None
- Dredge or Fill Permits under the 404 of the Clean Water Act None

6. Topographic Map: See attachment 1

- A recent and detailed topographic map showing all storm water outfalls is not available at this time. As part of the general scope of work as presented in this document the Municipality of Lajas intends to develop such a map in a suitable schedule.

7. Brief Description of the Nature of Business:

The Municipality is a local government entity that conducts administrative operations on a daily basis within the geographical area of the township. The municipality has a population of 26,261 inhabitants (2000 Census) within an area of 61.2 square miles. In the urban center are located the City Hall, Emergency management Office, Municipal Police and State Police Station, federal Post Office, Elementary Private School, Elementary Public School, Intermediate Public School and High Public School, Collective Transportation Terminal and various other commercial buildings and offices where all the major economic activities take place.

A second urban area is located in La Parguera Sector recognized as one of the island major tourism attractions. The Municipality provides public services to the general population such as security, public works and maintenance of local roads, solid waste disposal, recreational and cultural activities and many others. Lajas is located in the southwest region of the main island of Puerto Rico between the towns of San Germán (north), Guánica (east) and Cabo Rojo (west). The most important economic activities are tourism, construction and agriculture.

8. The Municipal Storm Water Sewer System Serves an estimated area of 61.2 square miles.
9. The Municipality of Lajas recognizes it is responsibility for the maintenance of the Storm Water Sewer System and will implement the following best management practices for each of the six storm water minimum control measures as described in 40CFR 122.34 (b) (1) through (b) (6).

- **Public Education and Outreach on Storm Water Impacts:**

The Municipality of Lajas will implement an education program in all the communities about the consequences of illegal discharges on our water bodies and measures that can be taken to reduce the discharge of pollutants into the Municipal Storm Water Systems. The program will include the preparation and distribution of written materials as well as the celebration of public meetings.

- **Public Involvement and Participation:**

The Municipality of Lajas will involve the residents and communities through the recruitment of volunteers in schools (students and teachers) and local entities (community leaders and non-profit organizations). Voluntary involvement would include stream monitoring, identification and marking of storm drains, reforestation where needed and clean ups.

- **Illicit Discharge Detention and Elimination:**

The Municipality of Lajas will enforce (through our Municipal Police Department) a program to detect and eliminate illicit discharges to the Municipal Storm Water Systems. The proper ordinance (municipal law) will be written to establish the rules, regulations and penalties for any such violation. Measures for the proper identification of illegal discharges will be prepared.

- **Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control:**

The Municipality of Lajas will implement and enforce a program (through the Municipal Planning Office) to assure that all legal construction activities are undertaken with the adequate erosion and sedimentation controls in order to reduce possible discharge of pollutants into the Municipal Storm Water Sewer Systems. Penalties will be applied for illegal construction activities and negligent practices in accordance to the previously mentioned ordinance.

- **Post-Construction Storm Water Management in New developments and Redevelopments:**

The Municipality of Lajas will work with the private sector and construction developers to establish the correct protocols needed (through our Municipal Planning Office) to obtain digital copies of proposed storm water systems to serve future projects located within our area. This practice will allow our municipality to update the data base to be created with the program. It will also allow our Municipal Public Works Department to effectively adopt the work schedule of the preventive maintenance program to be implemented.

- **Pollutant Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations:**

The Municipality of Lajas will develop an in-house program of education and inspection to prevent pollutants generated by our facilities from reaching the Municipal Storm Water Sewer Systems. The program will include; employee training, spill control and remediation, field inspections and preventive maintenance of drains, inlets, outfalls and manholes.

10. The Municipality of Lajas will prepare and implement a Storm Water management Program (SWMP) in which detailed descriptions of the Best Management Practices will be addressed. A preliminary schedule regarding the implementation of the BMP'S follows:

Control Measure	Expected Start Date	Expected Completion Date
Public Education and Outreach on Storm Water Impact	April, 2009	April, 2011
Public Involvement and Participation	April, 2009	April, 2011
Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination	July, 2009	November, 2012
Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control	July, 2009	November, 2012
Post-Construction Storm Water Management in New Development and Redevelopment	April, 2009	November, 2012
Pollutant Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations	July, 2009	July, 2011

11. The person responsible for implementing and coordinating the applicant's Storm Water management Program is:

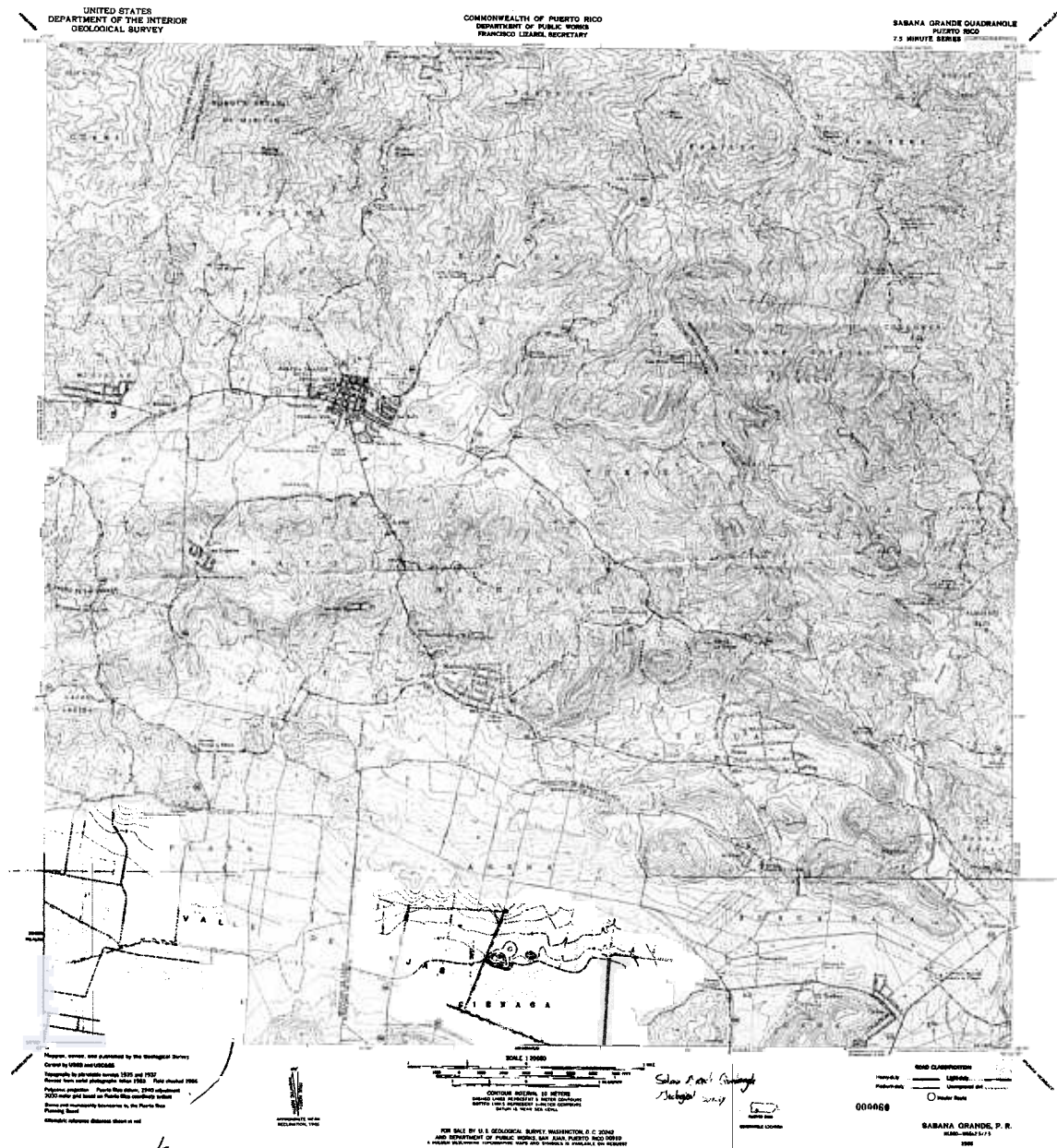
Walter Báez Rodríguez
Director
Public Works Department
P. O. Box 910
Lajas, Puerto Rico 00667

Phone No. (787) 899-2973/ 899-2973/ 899-2965

LCT/mcc

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Lajas Topographic Map Sabana Grande Quadrangle



Lajas Topographic Map Guánica Quadrangle